

**IN THE DRAWINGS**

Please add FIG. 18, included as Exhibit A hereto, after FIG. 17 and before FIG. 19 of the drawings.

**REMARKS**

**Amendment – FIG. 18**

Applicants originally submitted 22 sheets of drawings with the present application. The Patent Office indicated that only 21 sheets of drawings were received. While Applicants petitioned for acceptance of all drawings and continue to contend that 22 sheets of drawings were initially submitted, and Applicants' attorney filed a declaration to this effect, the Office held that FIG. 18 was missing from the original application.

Applicants submit herewith FIG. 18 and contend that this drawing does not constitute new matter. FIG. 18 is a flowchart, described generally at p. 13, ll. 6-9 of the specification, and in detail at, *inter alia*, p. 30, l. 30 through p. 31, l. 8 of the specification. The specification describes the blocks shown in FIG. 18, and thus FIG. 18 is a visual representation of the text in the application as filed and does not constitute new matter.

**Status Inquiry**

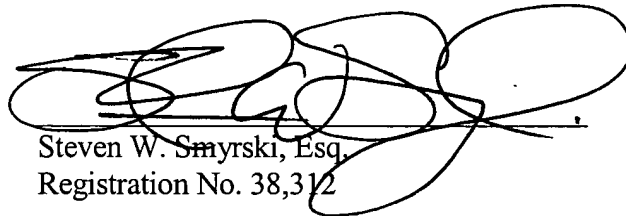
The present case was filed over two years ago. Applicants respectfully request a status of the present matter and an identification of a time period when an Office Action or Notice of Allowance may be expected.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Consideration of all of the claims is respectfully requested and allowance of all pending claims at an early date is solicited.

Applicants believe that no fees are due in accordance with this Amendment beyond those included herewith. Should any additional fees be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 502026.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 17, 2005

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